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Subject: MA Cotter Co Pickup Transfromer  
Posted by [Mr Vinyl](#) on Mon, 21 Apr 2008 21:19:04 GMT  
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Hi all,I was recently given a MA Cotter Co. Moving Coil Pickup Transformer Mk2L. That's all it says on it. Except for the Serial number on the bottom. Does anyone know anything about this unit? How to use it? How much it is worth? I know absolutely nothing about step-up transformers. Any help would be appreciated. Oh the unit also has on it what looks like a Clearaudio logo. Thanks in advance.

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Subject: Re: MA Cotter Co Pickup Transfromer  
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 22 Apr 2008 05:34:38 GMT  
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Phono matching transformers are for moving coil cartridges, which output about 10x less voltage than moving magnet cartridges. Typical MM cartridges output around 5mV, but MC cartridges are closer to 0.5mV.A pickup transformer is used to step up voltage about 10x. Of course, this also provides an impedance transformation. Source impedance of a MC cartridge is much lower than

increase impedance by decreasing the turns ratio of the transformer.Moving coil cartridges are usually pretty sensitive to load impedance, so it is worthwhile to match load to whatever the manufacturer specifies using a shunt resistor. You might even try a few values above and below the manufacturer recommended load to see what sounds best.

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Subject: Re: MA Cotter Co Pickup Transfromer  
Posted by [Bill Epstein](#) on Thu, 24 Apr 2008 15:53:37 GMT  
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Back in the mid-Eighties, the Mitch Cotter transformer was very highly regarded, much as the Klyne is today. Never heard one, tho'. "How they accomplish this, we do not know. But Mitch Cotter is on the trail." Mitch Cotter, for readers who are younger than I—which seems like just about everybody these days—is an audio engineer who developed an especially nice series of phono products back in the 1970s, including a superb and still-competitive moving-coil step-up transformer". - Art Dudley; Stereophile  
Stereophile article

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Subject: Re: MA Cotter Co Pickup Transfromer  
Posted by [doak](#) on Sun, 27 Apr 2008 06:59:38 GMT  
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I have lots of info on tthis and other M.A. Cotter equipment.Contact me directly.Doak

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Subject: Re: MA Cotter Co Pickup Transfromer  
Posted by [Mr Vinyl](#) on Mon, 28 Apr 2008 19:15:53 GMT  
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Hi,I e-mailed you but received no response. Did you receive my e-mail? Thanks for any information you can provide.Mr Vinyl

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Subject: A public Thank You to Doak....  
Posted by [Mr Vinyl](#) on Tue, 29 Apr 2008 16:39:29 GMT  
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It was nice talking to you. Thanks for all of your help. Vinyl Rules Dude!

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